



---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Briefing Package for AI Advisory Council Meeting**

### **November 17, 2021**

### **MS Teams Videoconference**

1. Briefing Note
2. Annotated Agenda
3. AI Advisory Council Membership
4. AI Advisory Council Terms of Reference
5. AI Advisory Council Previous Meeting Report
6. DRAFT Final Report of the Public Awareness Working Group: Learning Together for Responsible Artificial Intelligence (attached separately)

## **Meeting outline**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 3:30 – 3:40 | Opening Remarks and Welcome (Deputy Minister Kennedy)   |
| 3:40 – 3:55 | Briefing on AI and Research Security (Canadian Security Intelligence Service // Chief Science Advisor)                    |
| 3:55 – 4:15 | Final Recommendations of the Public Awareness Working Group and Council Discussion (Marc-Antoine Dilhac // Elissa Strome) |
| 4:15 – 4:25 | Consultation on European Union AI Regulations (Global Affairs Canada)   |
| 4:25 – 4:55 | Open Discussion: Renewal and Vision for the Advisory Council on AI (roundtable discussion);                               |
| 4:55 – 5:00 | Update on GPAI and Closing Remarks (Deputy Minister Kennedy)  |



Security classification: Confidential	
CCM Number: BN0009530	
Lead Sector: SIPS, ETPB, AI Hub	Consulted: SIPS-ETPB, SRS-SPPB, OCSA, PSC- CSIS
Contact: Allison O'Beirne, SIPS, ETPB, 343-998- 9501	
Originator: Graham McIntyre, SIPS, ETPB	
Action Required: For meeting	
For action by: November 17, 2021	

## **ADVICE TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER**

c.c. Associate Deputy Minister

### **Meeting of the Government of Canada Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence**

#### **SUMMARY**

- You will be chairing a meeting of the Government of Canada Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence ("the Council") via videoconference on Wednesday, November 17, 2021.
- This is the first Council meeting since you renewed and appointed a new Council on November 2, comprised of both renewing and new members.
- Key agenda items include a briefing on AI research security from the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, an overview of the final recommendations of the Council's Public Awareness Working Group prior to the publication of their final report, and an open discussion with Council regarding their views on the strategic direction and vision for the renewed Council.
- Following your November 8 call with Council co-chairs Yoshua Bengio and Foteini Agrafioti, this meeting is expected to offer further insights to inform the Council's strategic direction for the next two years.

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### **Advisory Council**

In May 2019, the Government of Canada first launched the Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence ("the Council"). The Council advises the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry and the broader Government of Canada on how best to build on Canada's AI strengths, identify opportunities to create economic growth, and ensure that AI advancements reflect Canadian values. Its current membership and

Canada



recently revised terms of reference are included in section three and four of this briefing package, respectively. The Council typically meets five to six times per year, and most recently met on June 16, 2021.

During the last meeting on June 16, the Council received a presentation from [REDACTED] of the Paris and Montréal Centres of Expertise on Working Group projects under the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI). The Council also reviewed a proposed draft of the annual report for the past year, followed by a pre-recorded presentation on the initial findings of the Open Dialogue pan-Canadian workshops led by the Council's Public Awareness Working Group. A full summary report of the June 16 meeting is included in section five of this briefing package.

### Council renewal

At the last Council meeting in June, you concluded by committing to reach out to all Council members to enquire about their plans to renew their service. Following confirmation from returning Council members, in addition to favourable responses that you led with prospective new members, you renewed the Council with official appointments on November 2, 2021.

Nine of the inaugural 14 Council members have been renewed for another term (Yoshua Bengio, Foteini Agrafioti, Natalie Cartwright, Mona Nemer, Eli Fathi, Marc-Antoine Dilhac, Teresa Scassa, Elissa Strome, and Jordan Kyriakidis). Garth Gibson, Cam Linke, and Marie-Paule Jeanson, former delegates of three outgoing Council members (Geoffrey Hinton, Richard Sutton, and Pierre Boivin respectively), have also been appointed. You also appointed three new candidates: Jason Lewis from Concordia University, Valentine Goddard from the AI Impact Alliance, and Humera Malik from Canvass Analytics. These fifteen Council members have been appointed to serve for a two year term.

In late October and at the request of [REDACTED] and outgoing Council member [REDACTED] you reached out to Dr. Gillian Hadfield from the University of Toronto to confirm her interest and availability in serving on the Council. A call regarding her participation has been scheduled for late November. In advance of this conversation, Dr. Hadfield has been invited as a guest to the November 17 Council meeting.

The renewed membership of the Council has been included in section three.

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

### Public Awareness Working Group

The Council's Public Awareness Working Group (the Working Group) launched in early 2020 with the aim of boosting awareness of, and



fostering trust in, AI. The Working Group is co-chaired by Marc-Antoine Dilhac, Associate Professor at the Université de Montréal and a two-term Council member. The other co-chair was Catherine Riddell, former Vice-President, Strategic Communications for the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR). Ms. Riddell departed from her role at both CIFAR and as co-chair for the Working Group on [REDACTED] Elissa Strome, Executive Director for the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy at CIFAR and two-term Council Member, has agreed to step in as replacement co-chair for the Working Group.

At the June 16 Council meeting, Marc-Antoine Dilhac provided a pre-recorded presentation on the initial findings from the Open Dialogue sessions on AI, a series of pan-Canadian virtual workshops that kicked off on March 30 and concluded on May 13. Over 430 Canadians participated in these pan-Canadian workshops, making it the largest AI related consultation in Canada to date.

Following the Council meeting in June, the Working Group met several times over the summer to arrive at a draft final report, which included a series of eight key recommendations. The Council will be invited to provide their comments and suggestions on the proposed final draft of the report by November 26. Upon subsequent review and approval of the report by both the Council and ISED, the final report is expected to be published on the ISED website in December 2021.

In an October 25 meeting between the Working Group co-chairs and the ISED Secretariat, the co-chairs requested that the Government of Canada proactively respond to these recommendations, either in-full or partially, to be announced at the time of the publication of the Working Group's final report. At the November 17 meeting, the co-chairs intend to raise their recommendations to Council regarding the proactive implementation of their report recommendations, and further request an extension of their mandate.

The ISED Secretariat will be engaging with the Minister's Office to advise on proactive engagement opportunities and early steps that could be taken to support the initiative outlined in the report.

#### Global Partnership on AI (GPAI)

At the second GPAI Summit, a hybrid event held virtually and in person in Paris on November 11-12, 2021, GPAI announced the first results of its projects. GPAI's Working Groups explore through these projects how AI can be used to address complex global challenges, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, more inclusive economic growth, and improvements to working conditions, all while leveraging novel technology solutions such as data trusts or AI-driven drug discovery. With this



important milestone achieved, Working Groups are now turning to GPAI members to see how their recommendations are being addressed and how their upcoming work will be supported.

The Summit also marked the end of Canada's chairmanship of GPAI and included the third GPAI Council meeting, where member countries discussed key decisions, such as membership as well as the Work Plan and the Roadmap for 2022.

### Research Security

Officials from the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) will be providing an unclassified briefing on AI research security, with a specific focus on ensuring the safety and security of the research integrity, data, and intellectual property of Canadian innovative firms and academics. Immediately following the briefing, you will invite Council Member Dr. Mona Nemer to provide her comments on the important balance between Canada's commitments to open data and open science, with a need to ensure the protect Canadian interests in the realms of sensitive and innovative AI technologies and related data. Council members will be invited to ask any questions or raise any concerns regarding the briefing. The Secretariat will provide a follow-up opportunity for any Council members who wish to further engage with CSIS on this topic.

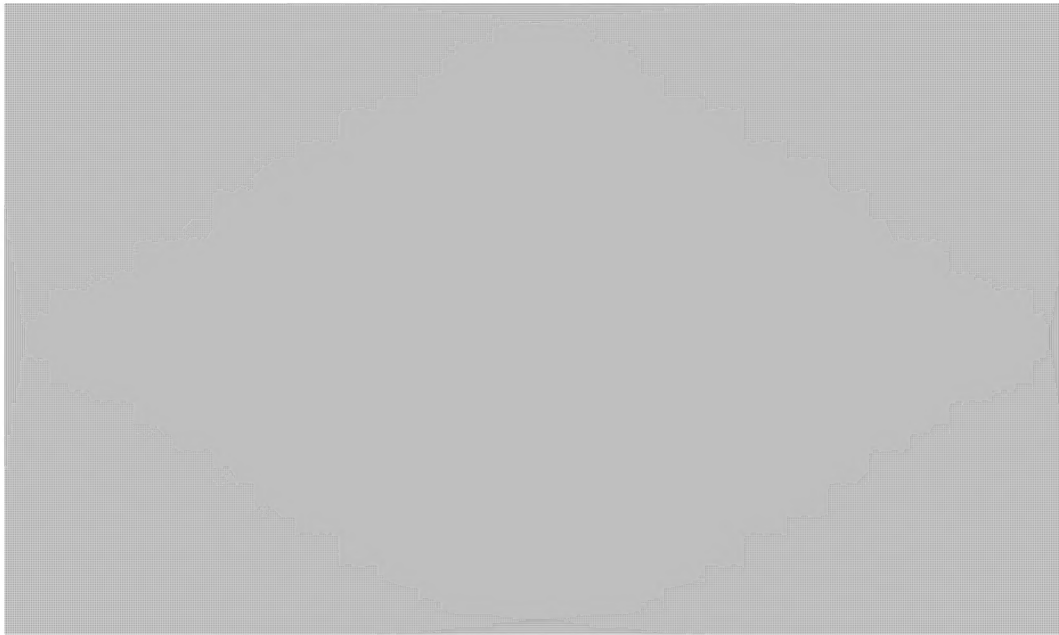
### Conflict of Interest Agreements

In line with departmental best practices with externally appointed advisory councils, such as the COVID Exposure Notification Advisory Council and the Economic Strategy Tables, new and returning Council members are being asked to sign a Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Agreement (COICA). On November 12 you counter-signed each COICA. The transmission and receipt of the COICAs to Council members is now being handled by the Council Secretariat.

### Strategic vision and work plan for the Council

During your outreach call with [REDACTED] to enquire about his renewal plans, [REDACTED] asked to engage you in a future conversation regarding the strategic vision for the AI Advisory Council and to chart out a work plan for the next Council term. [REDACTED]

In response to this request, you met with the co-chairs of the Advisory Council on November 8 to discuss the strategic vision for the Council. [REDACTED]



The November 17 meeting will provide Council members an opportunity to build on this initial discussion and comment on the future strategic vision for the Council. Suggested options for further discussion could include: (1) the scoping of an additional Working Group dedicated to AI Skills and Talent initiatives, noting potential engagement opportunities to be explored with Employment and Skills Development Canada; (2) scoping and feasibility of additional Working Groups in other key areas of interest, including specific key sectors such as life sciences and natural resource development; (3) opportunities for ongoing advice on the strategic direction of the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy; and (4) the creation of a white paper or road map that would be made publicly available and provide long-term advice and guidance to the Government of Canada.

Based on the insights gained from these two meetings, a draft work plan for the next two years will be created by the Secretariat in line with the strategic vision and for validation with the co-chairs and then the broader Council.

*Input from the Chief Science Advisor (CSA)*

Dr. Mona Nemer was engaged bilaterally on her views on the strategic vision of the Council on October 20, particularly in light of her leadership and experience working with independent advisory committees and panels to support Canadian efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Nemer suggested that the agenda of the Council should be more effectively and consistently linked with the measures proposed



under the renewed Pan-Canadian AI Strategy (PCAIS), providing an opportunity for Council to provide advice that would advance the creation of a cohesive national AI strategy that includes not only the targeted funding proposed under PCAIS, but additional cohesion and strategic advice on skills and talent, data governance, AI adoption, workforce transition, and advancement of Canada's international AI strategy. This approach would involve consolidating Government of Canada efforts across multiple federal departments and organizations for their regular participation and engagement through Council meetings, including the National Research Council, the Granting Councils, and Mitacs.

Dr. Nemer also suggested that Council could establish Working Groups, or particular subgroups or themed sessions, in collaboration with implicated federal departments and stakeholders on important AI policy advice. This could include dedicated breakout sessions on AI in transportation, potential impacts of AI on Canadian natural resource development, developing an international Canadian AI Strategy, federal government adoption of AI solutions, and digital adoption and workforce integration of AI solutions. Dr. Nemer suggested that, similar to external Advisory Councils in the health space, thematic experts and presenters could be invited to attend and present at Council meetings, and provide their insights into any ensuing reports. Dr. Nemer also supported increased visibility and public engagement efforts for the Council, and suggested complementary engagement efforts between the Council and other emerging technology priority areas, notably the National Quantum Strategy.

#### International comparison of AI Councils

As part of the meeting invitation, Council members will be invited to come prepared to provide their views on the strategic vision for the renewed Council. Council members will be provided with links to international and external advisory councils on AI as a basis of comparison, specifically the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States (US).

The UK AI Council is an independent expert committee that provides AI advice to the UK government as well as high-level leadership of the UK AI ecosystem. In January 2021, this Council published an independent report entitled the AI Roadmap, a series of 16 recommendations to the UK Government to develop a National AI Strategy across four pillars: Research, Development and Innovation; Skills and Diversity; Data Infrastructure and Public Trust; and National, Cross-Sector Adoption. The UK National AI Strategy was subsequently released in September 2021 with explicit reference to the role and advice of their AI Council.





In September 2021, the US Commerce Department announced the establishment of a National AI Advisory Committee (NAIAC), which was mandated with the passing of the National AI Initiative Act of 2020 (the Initiative). The Initiative sets out various responsibilities for different US federal departments to study and advance US AI research and development, computing capacity, financial assistance programs for AI Research Institutes, voluntary standards, and general coordination. The Committee will provide recommendations on the current state of US AI competitiveness, the state of AI science, AI workforce issues including supporting opportunities for underrepresented populations, and overall recommendations to advance the Initiative. A call for NAIAC nominations closed on October 25, with further details expected to be made publicly available in the coming months.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Please see section [two](#) of this package for an annotated agenda with speaking points for the November 17 meeting of the Council.

Francis Bilodeau  
Senior Assistant Deputy Minister  
Strategy and Innovation Policy Sector





## Meeting of Canada's Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence

via Videoconference (MSTeams)

**Date:** November 17, 2021

**Time:** 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM EST

### Agenda

#### 3:30 – 3:40 – Opening Remarks and Welcome

**Lead: DM Simon Kennedy**

**Expected Outcome:** Introductions and overview of the meeting agenda.

#### *Kick-off*

- Thank you all for joining us today.
- I am Simon Kennedy, Deputy Minister at Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada.
- Before we begin, since I am in Ottawa, I wish to acknowledge that I am in the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabe [ah-NISH-ih-NAH-bay] people. I recognize that we all work in different places and therefore you work on a different traditional Indigenous territory. I encourage you to take a moment to reflect on this.
- I want to officially welcome you all to the first official meeting of the renewed Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence. I am very pleased that a majority of our inaugural members, and both of our co-chairs, have agreed to renew their service for another two year term.

#### FRANÇAIS – *Remarques préliminaires*

- Merci de participer à cette réunion du Conseil consultatif sur l'intelligence artificielle du gouvernement du Canada.
- Je voudrais d'abord demander à Jordan Zed de faire un tour de table pour savoir qui est en ligne.
- Cette réunion se déroulera dans les deux langues officielles. Je vous invite donc à intervenir dans celle de votre choix.



*Jordan Zed to do Roll Call (as at November 10)*

- Yoshua Bengio [accepted]
- Foteini Agrafioti [no response, but office confirmed]
- Marc-Antoine Dilhac [accepted]
- Elissa Strome [accepted]
- Teresa Scassa [accepted]
- Eli Fathi [no response]
- Jordan Kyriakidis [accepted]
- Natalie Cartwright [no response]
- Mona Nemer [accepted]
- Marie-Paule Jeansonne [accepted, but may join after 16:00]
- Garth Gibson [accepted]
- Cam Linke [no response]
- Jason Edward Lewis [declined]
- Valentine Goddard [accepted]
- Humera Malik [accepted]

*Changes to Council Membership*

- I want to start out by acknowledging the work of our outgoing Council members who are not renewing for a second term. On behalf of the Government of Canada I would like to offer my thanks to Geoffrey Hinton, Richard Sutton, Pierre Boivin, Ajung Moon, and Genevieve Tanguay for their service on the Council.
- In recognition of their expertise and our past interactions, I am very pleased to welcome Cam Linke from Amii, Garth Gibson from the Vector Institute, and Marie-Paule Jeansonne from Forum IA Quebec as full members of the Council. I look forward to continuing to benefit from your insights.
- We also have some new Council members joining us for the first time.



- I am pleased to welcome Valentine Goddard to the Council. Valentine is the founder and CEO of the AI Impact Alliance, an international NGO whose mission is to facilitate the ethical and responsible implementation of AI using a multidisciplinary and applied approach. Welcome to Valentine.
- I would also like to welcome Humera Malik to the Council. Humera founded Canvass Analytics in 2016 with the goal of revolutionizing the manufacturing industry using AI using a novel predictive platform to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and maximize production efficiency. Very pleased to have you join, Humera.
- Finally, although he cannot join us today, I am pleased to welcome Jason Lewis from the Department of Design and Computation Arts at Concordia University. Dr. Lewis founded the Obx Laboratory for experimental media in 2004, where he directs research and creation projects that engage with the cultural, social, and technological dimensions of emerging new media. Dr. Lewis was also one of the key organizers who initiated the Indigenous Protocol and AI Working Group, creating a position paper on Indigenous Protocol and AI for individuals who want to design and create AI from an ethical perspective that addresses indigenous concerns. I look forward to welcoming Jason at our next Council meeting.
- Last but not least, I would like to welcome back all of our returning Council members who are joining us again for a second two-year term. Thank you all for agreeing to continue to serve on this Council. I know your valuable insights will continue to guide our work on AI innovation across Canada.
- We have a busy agenda ahead of us today. We will be starting off with a briefing on AI research security, followed by a final look at the key recommendations of the Public Awareness Working Group prior to the publication of their report. We also have colleagues joining us from Global Affairs Canada to seek your expert advice and input into Canada's response to the draft EU regulations governing AI technologies.
- However, I want to specifically draw your attention to the roundtable discussion at the end. As part of our renewal of the Council, we are very interested to hear your views and inputs on the future strategic direction of the Council, and any proposed key areas of focus and related deliverables. This builds off a conversation I had with Yoshua and Foteini last week, and I will ask them to provide their views to start us off for this conversation.



**3:40 – 3:55 – Briefing on AI and Research Security**      **Leads: CSIS / Chief Science Advisor**

**Expected Outcome:** Engage the AI Advisory Council regarding issues of research security within the realm of AI, and the importance of contextualizing the need to protect Canadian IP, data, and research within the Government of Canada's broader commitments to Open Science and Open Data.

*Introductory remarks*

- First on the agenda is a briefing on AI research security provided by our colleagues at the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS). Following the presentation I would like to invite Dr. Mona Nemer to provide some remarks.

**CSIS officials – presentation (7 minutes)**

*Transition to Dr. Mona Nemer*

- Thank you. I would now like to invite Dr. Mona Nemer, Chief Science Advisor for the Government of Canada and Council Member, for her views on research security.

**Dr. Nemer – remarks (3 minutes)**

*Q&A Period / Wrap-Up*

- I would like to open the door for Council members to ask any questions or offer their views on the briefing.

**Q&A Session (5 minutes)**

- The Secretariat would be very pleased to play a connecting role between any interested Council members and our colleagues at CSIS regarding AI research security.



**3:55 – 4:15 – Final Recommendations of the Public Awareness Working Group and Council Discussion**

**Leads: Marc-Antoine Dilhac and Elissa Strome**

**Expected Outcome:** The Co-Chairs provide an overview of the final report of the Public Awareness Working Group, with a brief introduction of their work for new Council members, followed by a presentation on the eight key recommendations from the Working Group.

*Introductory Remarks*

- Over the summer the Public Awareness Working Group put the final touches on their summary report following the pan-Canadian survey and the Open Dialogue sessions.
- I am eager to learn about their key recommendations from conducting this substantial pan-Canadian effort, and how the Government of Canada can help advance the conversation with Canadians and promote greater public awareness of AI technologies.
- With that, I would like to turn it over to our co-chair of the Public Awareness Working Group, Marc-Antoine Dilhac and our interim co-chair Elissa Strome, who has taken over for outgoing co-chair Catherine Riddell. Over to you, Marc-Antoine and Elissa.

**Marc-Antoine Dilhac and Elissa Strome – presentation (10 minutes) and Q&A (10 minutes)**

*Concluding Remarks*

- Thank you for your presentation and for all your work over the last year and beyond. I very much appreciate your efforts.
- I would like to note to Council members that the Secretariat will provide an opportunity to provide additional comments and written feedback on the report and the recommendations by November 26.

**4:15 – 4:25 – Global Affairs Canada Consultation on the Draft EU Regulations governing AI**

**Lead: Stuart Palmer, Global Affairs Canada**

**Expected Outcome:** The Technical Barriers and Regulations Division of Global Affairs Canada will outline a call for input from AI Council members to provide their views on Canadian positioning in reaction to the draft EU regulations governing AI.



### *Introductory Remarks*

- Moving to our next item on the agenda, I would now like to ask Stuart Palmer from the Technical Barriers and Regulations Division of Global Affairs Canada to briefly share any insight provided by the Council on specific changes that Canada could request of the EU in response to their draft regulations aimed at governing the use of AI technologies.
- Over to you Stuart.

### *Concluding Remarks*

- Thank you Stuart. I would now like to invite Council members to provide any additional input.

### **4:25 – 4:55 – Open Discussion: Renewal and Vision for the Advisory Council on AI**

**Moderator: Simon Kennedy**

**Expected Outcome:** Initial feedback on the strategic direction and vision for the Council over the next two years

### *Background*

- As you know, this Council has created two Working Groups to date. The first Working Group focused on the Commercialization of Canadian AI technologies and aimed to capitalize on Canadian advantages in R&D and talent through a series of digital adoption and commercially focused initiatives. The insights from this Working Group directly informed the renewal and expansion of the Pan-Canadian AI Strategy laid out in Budget 2021, particularly the initiatives focused on commercialization, digital research infrastructure, and standards, among others.
- We heard earlier today about the key insights gleaned from the Public Awareness Working Group prior to the publication of their final report.
- Now that we have renewed the Council, we are eager to chart a path forward and create a work plan and strategic vision for the next two years in line with the Council's mandate, that will enable us to make the best use of your insight and skills, and help further advance and enhance the growth of Canada's AI ecosystem.



- This could take the form of an enhanced role for the AI Council relating to ongoing strategic advice and support for coordination of the Pan-Canadian AI Strategy. It could include targeted guidance on international engagement. Additionally, perhaps it could include key AI-related initiatives being advanced by other departments across the federal family.
- We want to make sure your views and advice are incorporated appropriately into ISED's work, priorities, programs, and initiative, so that your expertise can shape our vision for maintaining and growing Canada's AI advantage.
- We also have examples we can draw from internationally when considering existing and proposed external AI Advisory Councils, such as the United States and the United Kingdom. In the United Kingdom, for example, their AI Council was tasked with creating an expert and independent roadmap that directly informed the creation of a recently-released UK National AI Strategy.

#### *Prompting questions*

- Our goal is not to be too prescriptive about the future strategic vision and direction of the Council, but instead to open the floor for Council members to express their views or provide their comments.
- I would like to turn it over to Yoshua and Foteini to kick us off with a summary of what we discussed last week to help set the stage. Over to you Yoshua and Foteini.

#### *FOLLOWING OPEN DISCUSSION – Concluding Remarks*

- Thank you all for your thoughts and feedback. Certainly your input today has been incredibly valuable to us.
- We will continue our engagement with Yoshua and Foteini in the coming weeks regarding what we have heard today to chart a path forward for the next two years and arrive at a work plan and key deliverables.
- We will plan to share the results of the conversation with you at the next Advisory Council meeting for validation and finalization.





**4:55 – 5:00 – Update on GPAI and Closing  
Remarks**

**Lead: Simon Kennedy**

*Update on the Global Partnership on AI*


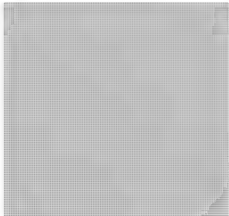


- Another element we will have to take into account is how the Advisory Council could be leveraged to support Canada's participation in the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI).
- As you may remember, the next GPAI Summit, which was hosted by France on November 11-12, marked the end of our chairmanship, but we will continue to be heavily involved in the initiative.
- As Outgoing Chair, Canada will work with its GPAI partners to equip the Working Groups with the right tools to advance their projects as well as increasing diversity of perspectives within GPAI, including from underrepresented regions.
- We are proud of what has been accomplished by GPAI during our time as the 2020-21 Chair. Experts have delivered impressive projects, and the Government of Canada will have to consider how it implements, in collaboration with the Canadian ecosystem, the work advanced by GPAI and determines which areas we would like to champion internationally going forward.
- We believe the Advisory Council can play a critical role in this respect, and I would propose we take some time at our next meeting to discuss this as well as the next steps.

*Closing the meeting*

- Again, on behalf of the Government of Canada, I want to thank all of those Council members who have agreed to continue serving on the Council, and I would again like to welcome those new members who are joining us for the first time.
- I look forward to working closely with you over the next two years.



## Members of Government of Canada Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence

		Name	Position	Organization	Prov	City
1		Foteini Agrafioti (Co- Chair*)	Chief Science Officer *Note: Resuming Co- Chair responsibilities from Kathryn Hume	RBC	ON	Toronto
2		Yoshua Bengio (Co-Chair)	Director	Montreal Institute for Learning Algorithms (MILA)	QC	Montreal
3		Elissa Strome	Executive Director, Pan- Canadian AI Strategy	Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR)	ON	Toronto
4		Teresa Scassa	Canada Research Chair in Information Law	University of Ottawa	ON	Ottawa



5		Eli Fathi	Executive Chairman	Mindbridge Analytics	ON	Ottawa
6		Mona Nemer	Chief Science Advisor	Government of Canada	ON	Ottawa
7		Marc- Antoine Dilhac	Associate Professor	Université de Montréal	QC	Montreal
8		Jordan Kyriakidis	Chief Executive Officer	QRA Corporation	NS	Halifax
9		Natalie Cartwright	Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer	Finn.AI	BC	Vancouver
10		Cam Linke	Chief Executive Officer	Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii)	AB	Edmonton



Innovation, Science and  
Economic Development Canada

Innovation, Sciences et  
Développement économique Canada

11



Garth  
Gibson

President and  
CEO

Vector  
Institute

ON

Toronto

12



Marie-  
Paule  
Jeansonne

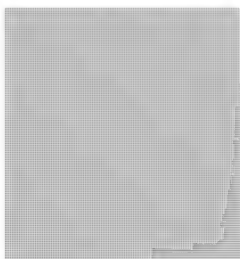
President and  
CEO

Forum IA  
Quebec

QC

Montreal

13



Jason  
Edward  
Lewis

Professor

Concordia  
University

QC

Montreal

14



Valentine  
Goddard

Founder and  
Executive  
Director

AI Impact  
Alliance

QC

Montreal

15



Humera  
Malik

Founder and  
CEO

Canvass  
Analytics

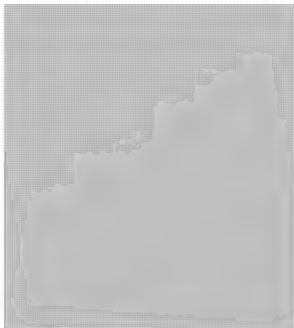
ON

Toronto



**POTENTIAL COUNCIL MEMBER (Interest / availability to be confirmed by DMO)**

16



Gillian Hadfield	Professor of Law and Strategic Management	University of Toronto	ON	Toronto
---------------------	--	--------------------------	----	---------



## **Revised Terms of Reference of the Government of Canada Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence**

### **1. Objective**

To create more jobs for Canadians; to further Canada's position as a global leader in artificial intelligence (AI) development and research; to better support entrepreneurs and scale ups; to ensure Canadians have the education and skills they need to succeed in a changing economy.

### **2. Mandate**

The mandate of the Government of Canada Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence (the Advisory Council) will be to build on Canada's strengths in AI, to identify new opportunities in the AI sector and to make recommendations to the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development and the Government of Canada more broadly including but not limited to:

- (a) How to ensure Canadians benefit from the growth of the AI sector.
- (b) How to harness AI to create more jobs for Canadians, to attract and retain world-leading AI talent, to ensure more Canadians have the skills and training they need for jobs in the AI sector; and to use Canada's leadership in AI research and development to create economic growth that benefits all Canadians.

### **3. Program of Work**

(a) The Advisory Council will be a central reference point to help inform the Government of Canada's development of AI-related policy. The work of the Advisory Council will build on the Pan-Canadian AI Strategy, which aims to increase the number of highly-skilled researchers and graduates and to enhance Canada's research capabilities in the AI sector. The Program of Work of the Advisory Council includes, but is not limited to:

- (i) Monitor the development of Canada's AI sector; advise the Government of Canada on innovative approaches to developing applied AI, basic research and development, intellectual property retention, commercialization, collaboration, adoption, marketplace frameworks, talent and scale-ups;
- (ii) Advise the Government of Canada on opportunities and best practices in the AI sector that will benefit Canadians;



(iii) Inform government policy in AI-related fields and in the integration of AI into a variety of sectors.

(b) The Advisory Council may establish Working Group(s) to advance specific areas of its mandate as set out as illustrative lists under section 3(a).

(c) The Advisory Council will provide advice on the work flowing from the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI), which aims to support and guide the responsible adoption of AI with like-minded international partners that is human centric and grounded in human rights, inclusion, diversity, innovation and economic growth.

(d) The Advisory Council will support the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development and the Government of Canada more broadly on Canada's AI engagement in various international fora such as the G7/G20, the OECD, the World Economic Forum, as well as with provinces, territories and municipalities.

(e) In carrying out its mandate, the Advisory Council may occasionally be asked to provide or contribute to reports, and issue discussion papers on options, recommendations, and advice.

(f) Acknowledging that AI is evolving, the Program of Work will be reviewed annually and updated in light of new challenges and opportunities.

#### **4. Organizational structure**

(a) The Advisory Council will draw on Canada's AI expertise from industry, civil society, academia, and government.

(b) The decision to nominate, consider, and appoint members and Chair is based on expertise, accomplishments and leadership in AI and applied AI.

(c) The Government of Canada's support for the Advisory Council will be led by the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada in collaboration with the Departments of Global Affairs Canada, Treasury Board Secretariat, Privy Council Office and other federal departments, and partners.

#### **5. Frequency of Meetings**

(a) Beginning in 2019, the Advisory Council will meet on a monthly basis or as-needed either in person, or via teleconference/videoconference with a focus on its Program of Work.





(b) Meeting frequency may vary depending on operational requirements.

## **6. Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement**

(a) The Advisory Council may invite individuals, and/or organizations – whether public or private – to have observer status at meetings, as deemed appropriate.

(b) Consultations may be conducted with external stakeholders from industry, civil society and academia, as well as with observers to incorporate broader Canadian perspectives into fulfilling the mandate of the Advisory Council.

## **7. Terms of Service**

Members of the Advisory Council are appointed for a period of two (2) years, with the possibility of renewal.



## Government of Canada Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence Meeting Summary – June 16 ,2021 Videoconference

### Overview

Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Deputy Minister (DM) Simon Kennedy chaired the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Advisory Council. Following introductory remarks, the Council was provided a presentation from the Heads of the Paris and Montréal Centres of Expertise on Working Group projects under the Global Partnership on AI. The Council also reviewed a proposed draft of the annual report for the past year, followed by a pre-recorded presentation on the initial findings of the Open Dialogue pan-Canadian workshops led by the Public Awareness Working Group. The meeting ended with DM Kennedy pledging to personally reach out to all Council members to enquire about their plans to renew their service on the Council.

### Introductory remarks

DM Kennedy welcomed Council members and thanked them for their years of service and expert advice. Centering his remarks on the pending renewal of the Council, DM Kennedy invited Council Members to reflect on past accomplishments that would be reviewed during the meeting, including the review and approval of the Council's annual report, as well as an overview of the initial findings from the Public Awareness Working Group on the Open Dialogue workshops. DM Kennedy also encouraged Council members to look to the future, specifically noting Canada's chairmanship of the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI) and the execution of practical, applied AI projects by GPAI Working Groups convened under Canada's leadership.

### Presentation on GPAI Working Group projects

Jordan Zed, Director General of the External Trade and Policy Branch at ISED and GPAI Steering Committee Co-Chair, provided introductory remarks that touched on the upcoming second meeting of the GPAI Council, during which GPAI members will discuss key decisions on membership, priorities, and the functioning of GPAI membership. This meeting will also represent a major milestone for GPAI, as the Council will formally approve its first Work Plan. AI Council Members are invited to attend a public-facing *Rendez-vous* event following the GPAI Council Meeting on June 30, during which GPAI Working Groups will formally announce their projects.

In preparation for these events, the respective Heads of the Paris and Montréal Centres of Expertise, [REDACTED], provided a presentation on the projects undertaken by the Working Groups that they support. [REDACTED] presented to the Council on the [Future of Work](#) and the [Innovation and Commercialization](#) Working Groups, and [REDACTED] followed with a presentation and discussion on the [Responsible AI](#), the [Data Governance](#) and the [AI and Pandemic Response](#) Working Groups. Following the presentations on the projects that GPAI will prioritize in 2021, Council Members were invited to ask questions and identify synergies within their own networks.



██████████ noted that GPAI does not have a large budget, and yet plays an important role as a connection point that convenes AI experts from around the world. He noted that there are socially significant and impactful projects underway under GPAI, and in particular pointed out that AI techniques used for drug discovery can also be adapted and used for materials discovery in order to combat climate change. ██████████ noted ongoing conversations with the National Research Council on these topics.

On behalf of ██████████ is exploring opportunities to specifically apply the principles of the Montréal Declaration in specific healthcare settings within Quebec, and identified a potential synergy with the Data Justice project being convened by the Data Governance Working Group. Mark Schaan (ISED) noted the clear linkages between GPAI projects and Canada's domestic agenda, particularly related to data governance and socially beneficial data usage with the *Digital Charter Implementation Act*.

Council Members are encouraged to reach out to ██████████ directly with any further suggestions, or to identify synergies with complementary elements in their own networks to the GPAI Working Group projects.

### **Review of the 2020-2021 Annual Report of the AI Advisory Council**

██████████ presented the draft of the 2020-2021 annual report for review, discussion, and finalization by Council. ██████████ kicked off the discussion by acknowledging the renewal and expansion of the Pan-Canadian AI Strategy, and linking the work of the Council and its Working Groups in the shaping of this Strategy. After acknowledging the importance of maintaining and expanding Canada's investments in its AI Centres of Expertise, she also emphasized the importance of the ongoing work of public engagement and awareness on issues related to AI.

██████████ remarks centered the work of the Council within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the importance of building both an economy and a healthcare system that could be more adaptive in the future. Focusing on AI in health, ██████████ emphasized the critical importance of data sharing, open science, and open data as critical components to advance Canada's AI leadership in health. ██████████ concluded by emphasizing that Council should continue its dialogue on incentivizing data sharing and ways that governments can maximize the impacts of AI through longer-term incentive structures that consider broad and long-term social and economic benefits.

A brief discussion followed regarding the scope of Talent and Skills initiatives that Council could consider, including a review of talent skillsets (data scientists, entrepreneurs, C-suite executives) that are all critical to the advancement of Canadian AI. Council members also briefly discussed the localization and residency of AI talent within a remote-first environment, as well as the importance of addressing wealth and regional equity. The scoping of AI skills and talent will be further discussed in a subsequent meeting of the AI Advisory Council.



## **Updates on the Public Awareness Working Group**

Marc-Antoine Dilhac, Co-Chair of the Public Awareness Working Group, provided a pre-recorded presentation on the initial findings of the Open Dialogue Workshops. The Open Dialogue workshops brought together over 430 people from across Canada, including 149 youth participants, across 19 deliberative workshops to discuss the ethics and perceptions of approximately 15 hypothetical AI use cases.

As part of the workshops, each breakout session had two parts: the first that focused on the deliberation of ethical challenges of AI, and the second that focused on recommendations that could guide the responsible development of AI. On the ethical challenges of AI, the findings broadly aligned with the principles from the Montréal Declaration on Responsible AI, with a particular focus on issues of bias and discrimination, surveillance and privacy, AI transparency, lack of informed consent, and the critical need to protect the data of individuals. Participants provided a range of recommendations that touched on the importance of raising awareness (STEM basics; AI information campaign; government-developed online courses on technical and operational foundations of AI) and suggested elements of a regulatory framework (accountability of AI actors; monitoring of AI systems to ensure data sovereignty and transparency; applying principles of redistributive justice to the AI ecosystem; creating legal / political mechanisms to achieve a responsible and trustworthy AI use framework).

Public Awareness Working Group Co-Chair Catherine Riddell joined the Council meeting to field questions and register the reaction of Council members to the presentation. Ms. Riddell received a few questions and comments that specifically related to the calculations and statistics presented in the initial findings presentation. Both the advice and the recommendations compiled from the Open Dialogue sessions (drafted by the University of Montréal), as well as the final report of the Public Awareness Working Group, will be made available to Council as soon as they are completed, for review and feedback.

## **Closing remarks**

In closing the meeting, DM Kennedy again expressed his appreciation to Council members for their ongoing service and engagement on the AI Advisory Council. After reminding members of the Council renewal, DM Kennedy subsequently reached out immediately following the meeting with each Council Member to engage on their plans for renewing their service to the Council.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The next meeting of the Advisory Council is scheduled for September 8, 2021. The Secretariat will finalize the Annual Report of the AI Council based on the Council's feedback, and will circulate the final version to Council members prior to or at the time of publication.